UNITED
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General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/115
S/25419
17 March 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-eighth session
Item 71 of the preliminary list*
GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 16 March 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the statement issued today by the Government of Mexico concerning the decision by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to withdraw from the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

I should be grateful if you would have the statement distributed as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 71 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Manuel TELLO
Permanent Representative of Mexico
to the United Nations

* A/48/50.

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ANNEX

Statement by the Government of Mexico concerning the denunciation by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

The Government of Mexico regrets the statement by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea announcing its decision to denounce the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and expresses its concern at the effects which the withdrawal of that country may have on the credibility of the system of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Mexico has always worked for disarmament, non-proliferation and the complete elimination of weapons of mass destruction. The denunciation of the Non-Proliferation Treaty by a State party is a setback, given the great progress made in this sphere.

The step taken by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is also cause for concern because it comes at a time when there are serious doubts within the International Atomic Energy Agency as to that country's compliance with its obligations under the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

The Government of Mexico expresses its hope that the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will reconsider its decision, thereby demonstrating its good faith with regard to the purposes and principles which prompted the international community to put the nuclear non-proliferation regime into effect in 1968.

UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/116
18 March 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/FRENCH

Forty-eighth session
Item 115 (b) and (c) of the preliminary list*

HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS, INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES FOR IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS; HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATIONS AND REPORTS OF SPECIAL RAPPORTEURS AND REPRESENTATIVES

Letter dated 17 March 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text in English and French of a statement on Myanmar (formerly Burma) issued by the European Community and its member States on 12 March 1993 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 115 (b) and (c) of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Bent HAAKONSEN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Denmark
to the United Nations

* A/48/50.

ANNEX

Statement on Myanmar issued by the European Community and its member States on 12 March 1993

The Community and its member States welcome the adoption on 10 March 1993 by the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR) of the consensus resolution on the human rights situation in Burma (Myanmar), which was co-sponsored by the Community and its member States.

The Community and its member States especially urge the Government of Burma (Myanmar) to release immediately and unconditionally the Nobel Peace Laureate Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, detained without trial for the last four years, as well as other detained political leaders and all political prisoners excluded from the preparation of the new constitution.

They urge the Government of Burma (Myanmar) to accelerate the process towards democracy by allowing all citizens to participate freely in the political process, in particular through convening the Parliament elected in May 1990, and to restore full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The Community and its member States attach strong importance to the international consensus shown by the adoption of the resolution and strongly urge the Government of Burma (Myanmar) as a Member of the United Nations and signatory to the United Nations human rights instruments to fulfil its obligations under these instruments.

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NATIONS

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General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/117
S/25428
18 March 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-eighth session
Items 34, 35, 85 and 86 of the
preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY
FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR
EAST
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO
INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES
AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE
PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER ARABS
OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 16 March 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Senegal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a statement made on 10 March 1993 by His Excellency Mr. Abdou Diouf, President of the Republic of Senegal and current Chairman of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, concerning the situation in Palestine (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 34, 35, 85 and 86 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kéba Birane CISSE

* A/48/50.

ANNEX

Statement made on 10 March 1993 by the President of Senegal, current Chairman of the Organization of the Islamic Conference

The situation in Palestine and the Middle East continues to deteriorate dangerously because of the Israeli authorities' persistent refusal to allow the immediate return of the Palestinians deported by the Israeli Government from the Gaza Strip - an occupied Palestinian territory - almost three months ago to a part of Lebanese territory that is also occupied.

This unacceptable act jeopardizes Arab-Israeli negotiations and has serious implications for international peace and security.

By its collective deportation, which even it has called "exceptional", the Israeli Government has contravened its own domestic law, which particularizes crimes and their punishment, violated international norms and conventions, in particular the fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, and undermined the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon.

This action by the Israeli Government was openly condemned by the Security Council, whose 15 members unanimously adopted, on 18 December 1992, resolution 799 (1992), which "demands that Israel ... ensure the safe and immediate return to the occupied territories of all those deported". Instead of complying, the Israeli Government publicly announced its categorical rejection of this injunction by the principal body responsible for the maintenance of international peace and security.

In the light of the unjust and unjustified prolongation of the suffering of the Palestinian deportees and the deterioration of the political situation in the occupied territories and in the Middle East, I have contacted, in my capacity as current Chairman of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Heads of State and Government of the countries members of the Security Council, the current President of the European Economic Community and the Secretary-General of the United Nations in order to stress the urgent need to find a legal solution to this question, in keeping with the relevant Security Council resolutions.

Abdou DIOUF

UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/118
19 March 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-eighth session
Items 38 and 108 of the preliminary list*

POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA

ELIMINATION OF RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Letter dated 18 March 1993 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a message from the South African Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. R. F. Botha, on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to be held on 22 March 1993 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under items 38 and 108 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) V. R. W. STEWARD
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/48/50.

ANNEX

Message from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of South Africa on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

The South African Government wishes, once again, to express its solidarity with the objectives of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

In my statement last year, I elaborated on the Declaration of Intent adopted on 21 December 1991 by the South African Government delegation and 16 other participants in the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (CODESA). In accordance with the Declaration, the Government committed itself to the objective of bringing about an undivided South Africa pursuing freedom, equality and security for all - irrespective of race, colour, sex or creed; a country free from apartheid and other forms of discrimination and domination.

The South African Government remains fully committed to this objective.

The Government's political will and determination is demonstrated by its persistent efforts, despite setbacks which caused a hiatus in negotiations during the latter part of last year, to revive the multiparty negotiation process.

I am pleased to announce that the negotiating process is now back on track. As you are aware, a Multiparty Planning Conference, aimed at securing consensus on the resumption of full-scale, multiparty constitutional negotiations, was held at Kempton Park, South Africa on 5 and 6 March 1993. The Multiparty Planning Conference, attended by 26 delegations representing the full spectrum of political parties and organizations in South Africa, adopted on 6 March 1993 a resolution in accordance with which:

- The participants committed themselves, individually and collectively, to the resumption of multiparty constitutional negotiations within the next month; and

- It was agreed that the multiparty forum shall be reconvened, as a matter of national urgency, not later than 5 April 1993.

The text of the resolution, adopted unanimously, with the exception of the Conservative Party, is attached.

The significance of this development is twofold:

- Political parties and movements, which did not previously participate in the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (CODESA), attended the Multiparty Planning Conference, thus ensuring that the principle of inclusiveness, basic to the negotiation process, is promoted.

- The decision to resume multiparty negotiations by 5 April 1993 is in step with the timetable for the transitional process announced by

State President de Klerk on 26 November 1992, which envisaged the resumption of the multiparty forum by the end of March 1993.

According to the timetable for the transitional process to which the Government has publicly committed itself, the following target dates are envisaged:

- Multilateral agreements on a Transitional Constitution, including constitution-making procedures, constitutional principles and regional governments, the Transitional Executive Council and an Election Commission be concluded before the end of May 1993.

- The Transitional Executive Council and Election Commission to be instituted before the end of June 1993.

- The transitional constitution, providing for a constitution-making body, be enacted before the end of September 1993.

- Election rules and regulations be formulated and promulgated before the end of October 1993.

- Elections for a Constituent Assembly/Constitution-Making Body be conducted not later than April 1994.

PROPOSED CHARTER OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

The South African Government on 2 February 1993 published proposals on a Charter of Fundamental Rights.

The proposals were published to stimulate the debate on human rights and to serve as a basis for negotiations on the contents of a bill of rights. Through this action the Government has demonstrated that it is committed to a new constitutional order in which the rights of the citizen are protected against the arbitrary and discriminatory abuse of political power.

The Government believes that a Charter of Fundamental Rights must be one of the most important elements of the new constitutional system. The provisions of the draft Charter are the Government's proposals of what should be contained in a comprehensive Charter of Fundamental Rights. It should not, however, be seen as the Government's final proposals.

The Government strongly believes that a negotiated charter of fundamental rights must already be in place during the transitional phase.

Of particular interest to this forum are the following provisions:

- The State shall in its legislative, executive and judicial acts respect and protect the human dignity of every person.

- All persons shall be equal before the law and entitled to equal protection by the law.

- No person shall be favoured or prejudiced solely by reason of race, colour, language, sex, religion, ethnic origin, social class, birth, political or other convictions, or disabilities or other natural characteristics.

INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS

To further strengthen the move towards the observance of human rights and the ending of discrimination in South Africa, the South African Government signed, or acceded, to the following international instruments on 29 January 1993:

- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;
- Convention on the Political Rights of Women;
- Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;
- Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages;
- Convention on the Nationality of Married Women;
- Convention on the Rights of the Child.

GENDER DISCRIMINATION: WOMEN'S RIGHTS

With a view to enacting the international instruments on women into South African law, the Government recently published draft legislation for the protection of the rights of women, thereby inviting public comment.

The three draft Bills are:

- The Prevention of Domestic Violence Draft Bill;
- The Abolition of Discrimination Against Women Draft Bill; and
- The Promotion of Equal Opportunities Draft Bill.

In the light of the recent release of the Government's proposed Charter of Fundamental Rights, which also contains provisions on women's rights, these draft Bills will serve to further stimulate debate on gender issues at grass-roots level. The debate will serve to pave the way for the enactment of legislation on these important issues.

Appendix

Resolution on the need for the resumption/commencement of multiparty negotiations

We, the parties, organizations and administrations assembled in this the Multiparty Planning Conference:

AWARE of the responsibility we individually and collectively bear for the well-being of our country;

BELIEVING that the problems of our country should be resolved peacefully through a process of negotiation;

REALIZING the urgent need for the economic development of the country;

AGREEING that the resources of the country need to be preserved, developed and improved for the benefit of all the people of this country and for future generations;

ACCEPTING that all the people of this country and the whole community of nations throughout the world look to us to move the country forward towards a non-racial, non-sexist and fully democratic future;

NOW RESOLVE TO:

1. Commit ourselves, individually and collectively, to the resumption/commencement of multiparty negotiations within the next month, in order to move as speedily as possible towards the attainment of our primary objective, which is the drafting and adoption of a new Constitution for South Africa;

AND FURTHER RESOLVES THAT:

2. The multiparty forum shall be reconvened as a matter of national urgency, not later than 5 April 1993;

3. Each participating organization will send two delegates and two advisers;

4. The first meeting will determine:

   4.1 mechanisms and procedures (including chairmanship);

   4.2 how to accommodate the views of those participants who were not in CODESA in relation to the agreements reached in CODESA;

   4.3 how these agreements can serve as a constructive foundation for the resumed negotiations process to build on;

   4.4 how this forum shall be structured and named;

4.5 the role of the international community;

5. The Facilitating Committee of this conference will have the responsibility of deciding upon and implementing the steps that are necessary to give effect to this resolution;

6. All participants are required to make an unqualified commitment to this process as a prerequisite for their participation.

UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/119
S/25439
19 March 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-eighth session
Item 71 of the preliminary list*
GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 19 March 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement by the Government of Costa Rica concerning the decision by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to withdraw from the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the statement distributed as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 71 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) José María BORBON
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/48/50.

ANNEX

Statement by the Government of Costa Rica

In view of the announcement by North Korea that it is withdrawing from the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, a situation which would involve a threat to South Korea, particularly the impact that it would have on the credibility of all existing agreements between the two Koreas, including the basic South-North agreement (reconciliation, non-aggression and interchange) as well as the joint declaration on the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and all the implications which that would have or give rise to not only for the security of South Korea, but also for peace and international security;

In view of this delicate situation, the Government of Costa Rica urges North Korea to rescind immediately its announced decision to withdraw from the Non-Proliferation Treaty, permit the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to carry out inspections in accordance with the resolutions adopted by the IAEA Board of Governors on 25 February, and agree promptly to conduct the mutual South-North nuclear inspections referred to in the joint declaration on denuclearization.

UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/120
25 March 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/FRENCH

Forty-eighth session
Item 115 (b) of the preliminary list*

HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS, INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES FOR IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

Letter dated 24 March 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text in English and French of a statement on Malawi issued today by the European Community and its member States (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 115 (b) of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Bent HAAKONSEN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Denmark
to the United Nations

* A/48/50.

UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/120
25 March 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/FRENCH

Forty-eighth session
Item 115 (b) of the preliminary list*

HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS, INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES FOR IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

Letter dated 24 March 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text in English and French of a statement on Malawi issued today by the European Community and its member States (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 115 (b) of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Bent HAAKONSEN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Denmark
to the United Nations

* A/48/50.

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UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/121
29 March 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

Forty-eighth session
Item 61 of the preliminary list*

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) WEAPONS

Letter dated 25 March 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to submit herewith the text of the statement delivered by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Algeria at the ceremony for the signing of the Chemical Weapons Convention (see annex) on 14 January 1993.

I should be obliged if you would have this letter, together with the annex hereto, circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 61 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Rabah HADID
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/48/50.

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ANNEX

Statement delivered at Paris on 14 January 1993 by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Algeria at the ceremony for the signing of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction

Algeria has made its modest contribution to the drafting of the Convention today open for signature, the conclusion of which has necessitated considerable efforts on the part of countries of every continent and representing every political and cultural strand and varying levels of economic and social development.

Algeria shares the views of those delegations which have emphasized the historical importance of the Convention. Algeria hopes that the international community, through this Convention, will make a major qualitative advance and cross an important threshold in the complete elimination of weapons of mass destruction. This would then represent a truly universal undertaking with the assumption of the same rights, the imposition of the same obligations and the provision of the same guarantees of security for all.

Algeria trusts that the commitments made under the Convention relating to cooperation and assistance to developing countries will not prove to be empty promises.

Certain parties, however, continue to harbour reservations with regard to the Convention because they consider that their legitimate interests have not been adequately reflected. Thus the Arab countries have expressed their fears, doubts and demands, in particular at the 1989 Paris Conference and on the introduction of this Convention to the General Assembly of the United Nations at its forty-seventh session.

No one can be unaware or deny that in the Middle East one country, and one country alone, possesses an arsenal of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons, and that this same country is not a party to any international treaty and maintains its refusal to submit its installations to international monitoring.

The Arab countries can neither tolerate nor accept that this situation be skirted in any discussion of security and disarmament issues in any setting or context.

Whether present or not at Paris, the Arab countries unanimously demand at the regional level that the question of weapons of mass destruction should be approached from a comprehensive perspective.

In this context the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States has addressed letters to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the French Republic reaffirming the steadfast position of the Arab countries. Algeria expresses its firm and unequivocal support for that initiative.

In particular, Algeria reaffirms its support for resolution No. 5232 of the League of Arab States of September 1992 by which the Council of the League emphasized its support for the establishment in the Middle East of a zone free of all weapons of mass destruction, whether nuclear, biological or chemical, as the best means of guaranteeing the security of all the countries of the region.